

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 SAM-01 /078 W

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R 161020Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 197

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 6516

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR JA VN VS CB

SUBJ: JAPAN'S DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH VN AND KHMER

REF: TOKYO 6259

SUMMARY: IN VIEW OF SIHANOUK'S HARSH STATEMENTS ABOUT
CAMBODIAN RELATIONS WITH JAPAN, GOJ THINKS PROSPECTS FOR
EARLY TIES WITH "PURIFIED" KHMER ARE NOT GOOD. IN CONTRAST,
RECENT CONTACTS WITH HANOI AND AUTHORITIES IN SAIGON HAVE
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BEEN CORDIAL AND GOJ EXPECTS RELATIONS WITH BOTH TO
ADVANCE. END SUMMARY.

1. FONOFF FIRST SE ASIA DIVDIR HANABUSA BRIEFED US MAY 15

ON PROSPECTS REGARDING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH VIETNAM AND KHMER. JAPAN'S ATTEMPTS TO CONTACT KHMER HAVE ENCOUNTERED WHAT HANABUSA CHARACTERIZED AS "TOTAL WALL OF SILENCE". SIHANOUK'S STATEMENTS ABOUT REQUIRING JAPAN TO WAIT SEVERAL YEARS BEFORE ESTABLISHING RELATIONS AND DEMANDING THAT JAPAN RECAP FOR ITS CLOSE ASSOCIATION WITH THE US AND JOIN OR AT LEAST IDENTIFY ITSELF WITH THE THIRD WORLD HAVE LED FONOFF TO QUESTION WHETHER THE NEW "PURIFIED" KHMER WILL BE SO ANXIOUS FOR JAPANESE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE VIA DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AS JAPANESE INITIALLY EXPECTED.

2. INITIATIVE REMAINS WITH HANOI FOR RESUMING TALKS ON ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO NVN AND OPENING DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN TOKYO AND HANOI. HANABUSA DESCRIBED NORTH VIETNAMESE AS "ACCOMMODATING" IN RECENT CONTACTS WITH GOJ, FOR EXAMPLE ON QUESTION OF PROTECTION OF JAPANESE NATIONALS IN SVN. HANABUSA SAID GOJ WAS PREPARED TO RE-OPEN TALKS AT ANY TIME. SEVERAL OF THE IMPEDIMENTS WHICH HAMPERED EARLIER TALKS HAVE BEEN REMOVED. THESE INCLUDE RECOGNITION OF PRG AND CLOSE SCRUTINY REQUIRED OF HANOI'S AID PURCHASE REQUESTS WHICH, TO JAPANESE, INCLUDED ITEMS WITH MILITARY POTENTIAL AND WHICH WERE THEREFORE UNACCEPTABLE TO GOJ. HANABUSA COMMENTED THAT ALTHOUGH GOJ IS WILLING TO RE-OPEN AID TALKS, AGREEMENT WOULD NOT BE SIGNED UNTIL JAPAN IS ALLOWED TO OPEN ITS EMBASSY IN HANOI.

3. CONTACTS WITH PRG BY AMB HITOMI IN SAIGON HAVE BEEN CORDIAL AND HANABUSA NOTED THAT JAPAN WAS INVITED TO PRG

CELEBRATIONS BEING HELD IN SAIGON, HONG KONG, AND ELSEWHERE. PORTENTS FOR MAINTAINING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH SVN APPEAR GOOD AND HANABUSA EXPECTS RGSVN AGREEMENT ONCE A GOVERNMENT IS IN PLACE IN SAIGON.

4. COMMENT: JAPANESE, AS EVERYONE ELSE, ARE MYSTIFIED BY REPORTED DEVELOPMENTS IN KHMER BUT SLIGHTLY AND PLEASANTLY SURPRISED BY MODERATION AND OPENNESS, AT LEAST THUS FAR, OF
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NEW REGIME IN SAIGON.
HODGSON

CONFIDENTIAL

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